

BEFORE IT'S YOURS, WE MINE IT.

Photographed and compiled by Veronika Sochorová



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BEFORE IT'S YOURS, WE MINE IT.

The extractive industry is one of the foundations of Europe, providing the material base for many other European business and industrial sectors.

The European mining industry represents a major industrial sector within the European Union, underpinning both wealth creation and quality of life for almost every sector of society. Except for food, virtually every single thing society consumes derives ultimately from a mine somewhere on earth. The industry contributes to basic service and high-tech industries.

Minerals and metals have always been an integral part of our everyday life, essential for development and thus the creation of sustainable communities.

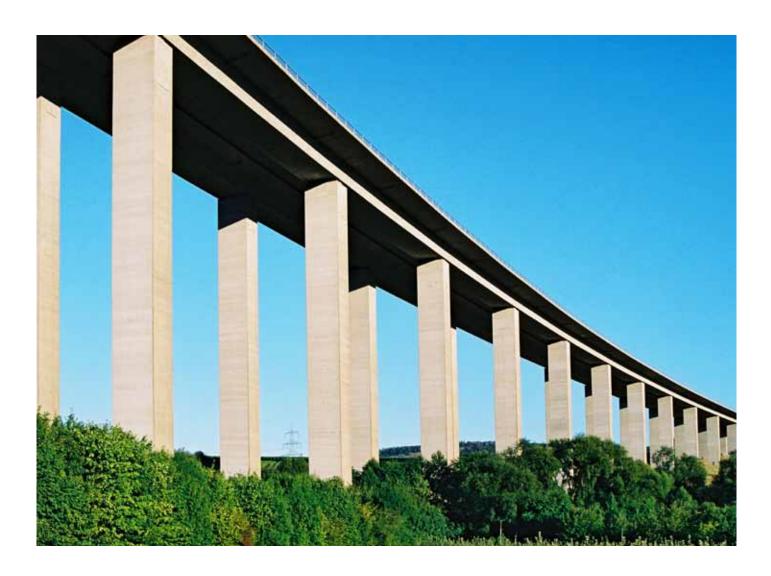
Most all EU industries depend on the supply of minerals and metals in one way or another.





INFRASTRUCTURE

Every journey we make relies on minerals, whether by car, train, plane, boat or on foot. Aggregates (crushed rock, sand and gravel) are used for roads and footpaths, while railway tracks made from steel are laid on aggregates. Refractory bauxite is added to cement to ensure harbours walls withstand the power of the sea. Airports, railway stations and shipping ports all use large amounts of construction minerals to build them. Without minerals and metals, there would be no houses, office buildings, shopping centres, public buildings, airports, bridges, tunnels, dams or roads. It is near impossible to cite all of the mining-based materials necessary for building and maintaining our modern infrastructure, but among the most fundamental are: aluminium, copper, feldspar, gypsum, iron ore, lead, manganese, mica, tungsten, zinc, asphalt, marble, perlite, gravel, clay, shale, crushed stone, tar, salt and cement.





Berlin Central Station

The Berlin Train Station (Berlin Hauptbahnhof) was designed by architects Meinhard von Gerkan and Jürgen Hillmer and can manage more than 1,500 trains and 25,000 passengers on a daily basis. 500,000 m³ of concrete and 85,000 tons of steel were used to make the building and individual bay ventilation towers are equipped with 27,000 glass blocks. Overarching the building is a giant dome (the roof) which is made from 11,800 glass panels, and are all uniquely different. Among the glass dome, an area of 2,700 square meters of solar panels is composed of 1,250 modules.

Moravian Library

The Moravian Library is the second biggest library in the Czech Republic and holds more than 4 million books. The main architectural feature of the building is a double solar façade which is used for heating the building. Natural ventilation and the use of heat accumulation in the ceiling structures allow for energy savings (mainly for cooling during hot summer periods).

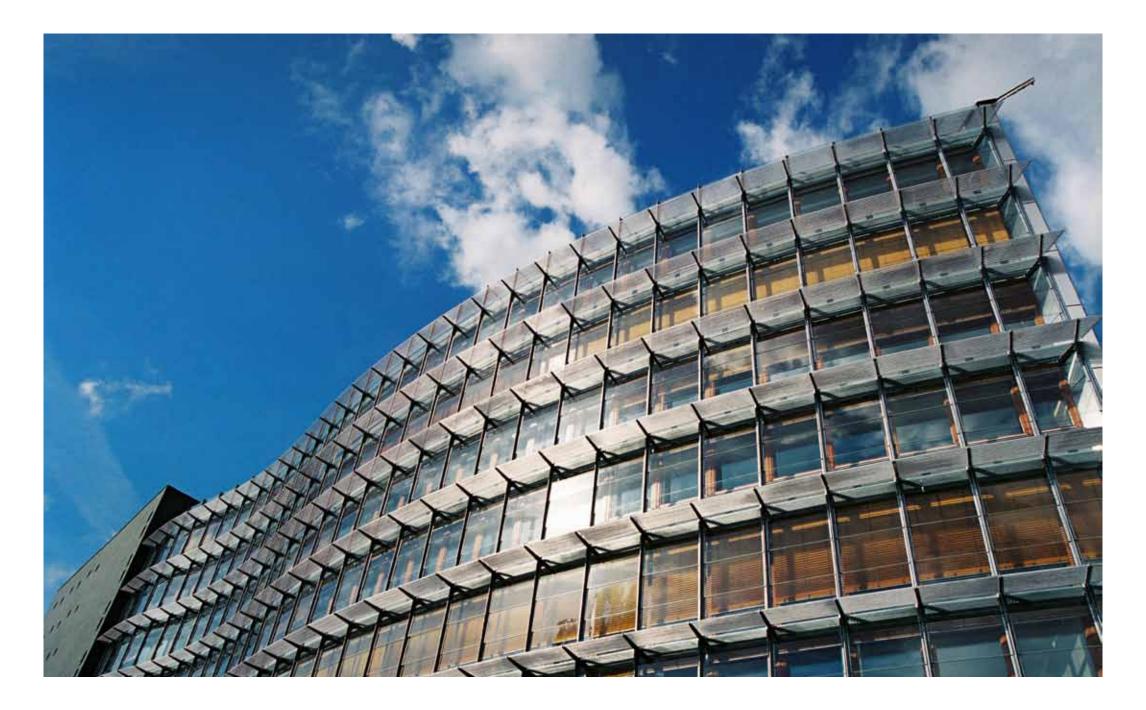




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EUROMINES

Euromines is the recognized representative of the European metals and minerals mining industry. The members' main objective is to promote the industry and maintain their relations with European institutions at all levels. Euromines provides services to its members with regard to EU policy and forms a network for cooperation and the exchange of information throughout the sector within Europe. The association also supports contacts with the mining community throughout the world.

Euromines is the primary interface between the European extractive industry and the European authorities and international or intergovernmental bodies. The association works to establish common industry positions and initiatives, enhance constructive dialogue on areas of European and international policy affecting the industry and assert the industry's views and positions.

As an advocate for the extractive industry, Euromines promotes the benefits and societal value of both its activities and its investments.

Euromines members are large and small companies who with their subsidiaries in Europe and in other parts of the world provide jobs to more than 350,000 people. Their activities and operations produce more than 42 different metals and minerals.

For some metals and minerals, Europe is the world's leading producer.



